Countering Pakistan's false propaganda in Islamic countries

1125. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the steps taken by Government to counter the false propaganda by Pakistan in Islamic Countries regarding Kashmir and the conditions of Muslims in India;

(b) whether Government are considering to send a strong delegation of prominent Muslims from different walks of life to Islamic Countries to counter the Pakistani propaganda; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Countering Pakistan's anti-India propaganda in the Islamic countries is an ongoing process. The Government and the Indian Missions continuously monitor such activities, particularly relating to Kashmir and the conditions of Muslims in India. Swift, comprehensive and effective action is taken to counter Pakistan's false and motivated propaganda. Factual information is regularly provided to decision makers; the media; and the Governments of these countries through the Indian Missions abroad as well as through the Missions of the Islamic countries in India. The Governments of these countries are also briefed during visits of high level delegations to India and from India to these countries.

(b) There is at present no proposal to send a delegation, comprising only prominent Muslim personalities, to the Islamic Countries.

(c) Does not arise.

Foreign tours of the President and officials of ICCR

1126. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign tours undertaken by the President and the officials of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations in 1993 and 1994 (till date) stating the names of the countries visited and the purposes of their visits;

(b) what is the expenditure incurred by the President and the officials of the ICCR on each foreign trip; and

(c) what are the achievements of these foreign tours?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) The foreign tours undertaken by the president and the officials of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) are as follows:

1993

(i) President, ICCR toured abroad on two occasions and visited Austria, Japan and Thailand.

(ii) Director General, ICCR toured abroad on nine occasions and visited South Africa, Mauritius, Egypt, United Kingdom, USA, Hungary, Austria, France, Russia, Israel, China and Japan.

(iii) Private Secretary to the President, ICCR toured abroad on one occasion and visited Austria.

(iv) Assistant Private Secretary to President ICCR toured abroad on one occasion and visited Japan and Thailand.

1994

(i) President, ICCR toured abroad on one occasion and visited United Kingdom and France.